

# מדינת ישראל

OP 28 46 (ult)

GOVERNMENT OF PALESTINE

C. S. O.

## SUBJECT

ALLEGED DISCRIMINATION BETWEEN  
ARAB & JEWISH PRISONERS REGARDING  
AMNESTIES GRANTED ON V. D.

## CONNECTED FILES

### NUMBER AND YEAR

### SUBJECT

מדינת ישראל  
גנזך המדינה



(ALLEGED DISCRIMINATION BETWEEN)

מ - 33 / 346

947230

מס פריט:

2.15/1 - 783

02-112-04-09-06

11/12/2013

מזהה פיזי:  
מזהה לוגי:  
כתובת:

מ

ארץ ישראל  
ממשלת המנדט



OP 28 46 (vol I)

GOVERNMENT OF PALESTINE

C. S. O.

SUBJECT

ALLEGED DISCRIMINATION BETWEEN  
ARAB & JEWISH PRISONERS REGARDING  
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GPP. 24717-10000-7-9-46

CONNECTED FILES

NUMBER AND YEAR

SUBJECT

מדינת ישראל  
גנזך המדינה

346/  
33

מ

ארץ ישראל  
ממשלת המנדט

Indean  
9/2



① S. of S. ——— Saving 658 — 23.7.46

2. US(P)

submit at 2A suggested reply to ①,  
based on information obtained from Commission  
of Prison

RS  
12/8.

3) Re Sp. Iss. as amended  
after verifying the matter of this  
year's releases. ✓ (July)

RS  
12/8.

Regin  
Telegram to be placed on file

13/8.

RS  
12/8.

③ S. of S.

15.8.46

PAG  
RS  
31/8.





COPY

(E 3809/204/31)

WAS/GBA

No. 535  
(1068/1/46)

With the Compliments  
of the  
Under Secretary of State  
for Foreign Affairs  
15 MAY 1946

(1a)  
BRITISH EMBASSY

CAIRO

18th April, 1946.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a letter from the Secretary-General of the Arab League regarding alleged discrimination in favour of Jewish as against Arab prisoners in the matter of amnesties granted on "Victory Day".

2. I also enclose a copy of a telegram received from Hassan al-Banna, head of the Moslem Brethren, which no doubt refers to the same prisoners. A colourless acknowledgment has been sent to Hassan al-Banna but, in view of the fact that the question has not yet been settled whether or not we should correspond officially with the Arab League, I am returning no answer to the Secretary-General's letter. I would, however, be glad of guidance on what answer should be returned orally to any oral enquiries which may be made as a consequence of this written representation.

I have, etc.

(Signed) Ronald Campbell.

The Right Honourable  
Ernest Bevin, M.P.  
Foreign Office,  
S.W.1.

Saving.

From the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

To the Officer Administering the Government of

PALESTINE

Date 23 July, 1946

No. 658. Saving.

CHIEF SECRETARY  
(Chief Clerk)

1 AUG. 1946

JERUSALEM

I enclose for your observation copies of correspondence between H.M. Ambassador, Cairo, and the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs concerning a complaint by Arab organisations regarding alleged discrimination, in favour of Jewish as against Arab prisoners in the matter of amnesties granted on Victory Day.

SECEP.

COPY

FROM: Hassan al-Banna, General Guide to Ikhwan  
El-Muslimin.

TO : H.M. Ambassador, Cairo.

DATE : 11.4.46

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"The General Headquarters of Ikhwan el Muslimin in the Egyptian Kingdom, requests that the British Government be asked to hasten the release of the responsible Arab politicians in Palestine, who have passed long years in imprisonment and who have lately struck against food in despair of justice and in protest against injustice and oppression to which they have been subjected until their lives are now in danger."



COPY

(1e)

LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES

CAIRO

SECRETARIAT.

14th April, 1946.

No. 932

The Secretary General of the League of Arab States presents his compliments to His Excellency the Ambassador of His Britannic Majesty and has the honour, in compliance with a resolution of the Council of the League of Arab States, to request His Excellency to convey to the British Government the following:-

According to their information, thirty arab prisoners judged by Martial Courts during the political troubles between 1936 and 1939 complain of having not been treated equally with the jews condemned for similar accusations and amnestied on "Victory Day". In presence of this discrimination in treatment, they went on a food strike.

This case having aroused the general feeling in Palestine and elsewhere, His Britannic Majesty's Government are requested to kindly examine this complaint and see their way to grant an amnesty to those arabs who were involved in the political events of 1936-1939 agitated by a general public revolt.

The Secretary General avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the British Ambassador the assurances of his highest consideration.

His Excellency,  
Sir Ronald Campbell,  
His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador,  
C A I R O

COPY

With the Compliments  
of the Under Secretary  
of State for Foreign  
Affairs.

1c

No. 360

20th May, 1946.

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

(F 3809/204/31)

17th May, 1946.

Sir,

Your despatch No. 535 of the 18th April transmitting a note from the Arab League regarding alleged discrimination between Jewish and Arab prisoners has been considered in consultation with the Colonial Office.

2. It is apparent that there is insufficient information available in London to enable a reply to be prepared here to this somewhat obscure complaint which, it is presumed, relates to Palestine.

3. In the circumstances Your Excellency should, if you have not already done so, bring the matter to the notice of the High Commissioner for Palestine who may be in a position to suggest a reply to the Arab League.

4. Meanwhile, should Azzani Pasha revert to this question, you may reply orally that the information contained in his note is insufficient to enable the complaint to be answered and you should request him to supply full details.

I am, with great truth and respect,

Sir,

Your Excellency's obedient Servant,  
(For the Secretary of State)

(Sgd.) C.W. Baxter.

His Excellency

Sir Ronald Campbell, K.C.M.G., C.B.  
etc., etc., etc.  
Cairo.

8  
Clear.  
SAVING.

From the High Commissioner for Palestine.

To the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date.....1800 11/8

No.....1172.....Saving.

Reposted to His Majesty's Ambassador Cairo. No. 582  
Saving with reference to his despatch to the Foreign  
Office No. 535 of 18th April.

Your Saving telegram no. 658 of 23rd July 1946.  
Complaint regarding alleged discrimination in favour of  
Jewish as against Arab prisoners in amnesty granted on  
Victory Day.

1. The particular given in the letter from Secretary General of the Arab League and the telegram sent by the head of the Moslem Brotherhood to His Majesty's Ambassador, Cairo, are not sufficiently detailed to permit of a full reply.

2. In 1945 on the occasion of V2 day remissions of sentences in respect of terms of imprisonment for offences relating to the disturbances of 1936-1939 were granted in the cases of twenty three Jews and one hundred and ninety Arabs. In July 1946 a further general review of cases of this nature was carried out and as a result thirty nine Arabs were released.

3. The allegations contained in the correspondence referred to above are therefore unfounded.

(Mr. Smith)



8  
Clear.

CP/28/46

3

SAVING.

From the High Commissioner for Palestine.

To the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

COPY FOR REGISTRATION

1800 15/8

Date.....

1172

No.....Saving.

Repeated to His Majesty's Ambassador Cairo. No. 589  
Saving with reference to his despatch to the Foreign  
Office No. 535 of 18th April.

Your Saving telegram no. 658 of 23rd July 1946.  
Complaint regarding alleged discrimination in favour of  
Jewish as against Arab prisoners in amnesty granted on  
Victory Day.

1. The particular given in the letter from Secretary General of the Arab League and the telegram sent by the head of the Moslem Brotherhood to His Majesty's Ambassador, Cairo, are not sufficiently detailed to permit of a full reply.
2. In 1945 on the occasion of VE day remissions of sentences in respect of terms of imprisonment for offences relating to the disturbances of 1936-1939 were granted in the cases of twenty three Jews and one hundred and ninety Arabs. In July 1946 a further general review of cases of this nature was carried out and as a result thirty nine Arabs were released.
3. The allegations contained in the correspondence referred to above are therefore unfounded.

(Mr. Smith)

Osene *[Signature]*  
(23/9).

8  
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SAVING.

From the High Commissioner for Palestine.

To the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Date.....1800 15/8

No.....1172.....Saving.

Reopened to His Majesty's Ambassador Cairo, No. 589  
Saving with reference to his despatch to the Foreign  
Office No. 535 of 18th April.

Your Saving telegram no. 658 of 23rd July 1946.  
Complaint regarding alleged discrimination in favour of  
Jewish as against Arab prisoners in amnesty granted on  
Victory Day.

1. The particular given in the letter from Secretary General of the Arab League and the telegram sent by the head of the Moslem Brotherhood to His Majesty's Ambassador, Cairo, are not sufficiently detailed to permit of a full reply.

2. In 1945 on the occasion of V8 day remissions of sentences in respect of terms of imprisonment for offences relating to the disturbances of 1936-1939 were granted in the cases of twenty three Jews and one hundred and ninety Arabs. In July 1946 a further general review of cases of this nature was carried out and as a result thirty nine Arabs were released.

3. The allegations contained in the correspondence referred to above are therefore unfounded.

(Mr. Smith)